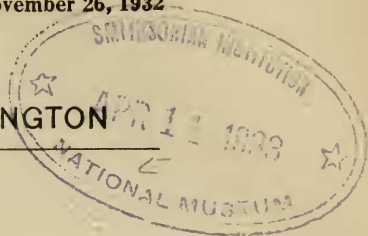


PROCEEDINGS
OF THE
BIOLOGICAL SOCIETY OF WASHINGTONSEVEN APPARENTLY NEW SOUTH AMERICAN
BIRDS.

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Further study of the South American collections of birds in the Carnegie Museum continues to bring to light more new species and races from various parts of the continent. The seven forms described in the present paper belong to as many different families, and were recognized as probably new shortly after their receipt. This is the nineteenth paper of the series to appear in these Proceedings, and in the methods of measurement and the names of the colors is uniform with the others. My thanks are due to Dr. C. E. Hellmayr of the Field Museum of Natural History and to Dr. Frank M. Chapman of the American Museum of Natural History for the loan of specimens used in this connection.

Odontophorus capistratus, sp. nov.

Type, No. 79,460, Collection Carnegie Museum, adult male; Cerro Hosane, Bolivia, August 28, 1917; José Steinbach.

Description.—Adult male: front, sides of head (except auriculars), and throat black; crown, nape, and auriculars dull brown (between raw umber and sepia); upper back strongly shaded with raw umber on a paler background (Saccardo's olive), the feathers vermiculated with deep brown and marked with shaft-streaks or elongated spots of white margined with black, these spots becoming larger on the scapulars and wing-coverts; lower back Dresden brown, with faint dark spotting; tail and upper coverts maculated with Brussels brown, black and buffy; wings dusky, with buffy mottling on the outer webs of the remiges; scapulars and wing-coverts like the upper back, but spotted with black in bold pattern, these black spots confined mostly to the inner webs of the feathers, tertiaries with broad cinnamon buff terminal and lateral margins on the inner webs; under parts dull Mars yellow, a little deeper (amber brown) on the breast and sides, the lower abdomen, flanks, and tibiae dull Dresden brown with an olivaceous wash

and faint darker bars and vermiculations; under tail-coverts similar but washed with amber brown; "bill black; feet plumbeous." Wing (type), 143; tail, 60; bill, 16.5; tarsus, 48.

Range.—Known at present only from the type-locality.

Remarks.—This new species is based on three male specimens, all from the same locality, in the western part of the Department of Santa Cruz, Bolivia. It is of course most nearly related to *O. speciosus* von Tschudi from Peru, but differs conspicuously from that form in its head pattern. The broad superciliaries are pure black (instead of black mixed with white); they unite in front on the forehead, and behind continue to join the black of the throat and sides of the neck, leaving only the auriculars brownish like the crown. The female is at present unknown, but will probably be found to differ from the male much as in *O. speciosus*. This new species marks the southernmost extension of the genus *Odontophorus* in the Andean region.

***Laterallus viridis brunescens*, subsp. nov.**

Type, No. 59,182, Collection Carnegie Museum, adult male; El Tambor, Santander, Colombia, December 23, 1916; M. A. Carriker, Jr.

Subspecific characters.—Similar to *Laterallus viridis viridis* (Müller) of French Guiana, etc., but general coloration of upper parts much more brownish, less olivaceous, and the pileum duller, darker rufous.

Range.—Tropical Zone of Colombia, west of the Eastern Andes.

Remarks.—This species, until very recently known as *Creciscus viridis* (cf. these Proceedings, XLV, 1932, 119), was recorded from Colombia by Salmon many years ago (cf. Sclater and Salvin, Proceedings Zoological Society of London, 1879, 545), but has not been found there since until Mr. Carriker turned up two examples from El Tambor in 1916. These were easily recognized as distinct from true *viridis*, of which we have a good series from French Guiana, but were not described sooner because of inability to compare them with *Crex facialis* von Tschudi of Peru. Recently, however, through the courtesy of Dr. C. E. Hellmayr, I have been able to examine three adult specimens of this latter bird (the type of which was an immature example). In *facialis* the upper parts are deep olive; in true *viridis* they run from bright brownish olive to dull medal bronze; while in the type of the new form they are dull Brussels brown, becoming raw umber on the wings and tail. A second specimen is paler and more olivaceous on these parts, but still with a distinct brownish wash. "Iris brown; feet brick red; bill horn-color, plumbeous below at the base." The under surface, too, is not quite so deeply colored as in *viridis*. Altogether the Colombian bird seems to constitute an excellent subspecies.

Brazilian birds of this species, collectively considered (we have twenty-four fine skins from the lower Amazon), differ from those of French Guiana (thirty-five skins) in their generally lighter coloration, particularly of the upper parts. The difference, however, is only an average one, and can be appreciated only when series are compared, but it seems worthy of recognition by name. Being unable at the moment to consult several of the references, I am not sure what is the earliest name available for this race.

Galbula rufoviridis heterogyna, subsp. nov.

Type, No. 80,269, Collection Carnegie Museum, adult female; Palmarito, Rio San Julian, Chiquitos, Bolivia, May 28, 1918; José Steinbach.

Subspecific characters.—Similar to *G. rufoviridis rufoviridis* Cabanis of Brazil, but female decidedly paler below, and male also slightly paler.

Range.—Tropical Bolivia, east of the Andes.

Remarks.—*Galbula rufoviridis* has been known from Bolivia for many years (*cf.* Selater, Monograph Jacamars and Puff-birds, 1879, 12), but it has been supposed by even such authorities as Dr. Hellmayr (*Novitates Zoologicae*, XV, 1908, 87) to range to that country unchanged in character. As a matter of fact, Bolivian males are little different from those of that sex coming from Brazil, but when we come to examine and compare females the difference between the two respective series at once becomes apparent. Whereas in true *rufoviridis* the sexes are much alike, save for the color of the throat, in the Bolivian race they are strikingly different, the females being decidedly paler than the males, and much paler of course than Brazilian females. The throat is buffy whitish, and the under parts below the breast-band are warm buff, deepening into cinnamon buff on the flanks and crissum. Selater's figure of the female in his Monograph (Plate 3) was based on a Bolivian example, and is a fair representation of the present bird.

Conopophaga castaneiceps subtorridus, subsp. nov.

Type, No. 67,150, Collection Carnegie Museum, adult male; Heights of Caldas, Colombia, June 14, 1918; M. A. Carriker, Jr.

Subspecific characters.—Adult male similar to the same sex of *Conopophaga castaneiceps castaneiceps* Selater of the Eastern Andes of Colombia, but pileum much darker, chestnut anteriorly, passing into deep Prout's brown posteriorly; back darker gray, with more olive brownish wash.

Range.—Subtropical Zone, Western Andes of Colombia.

Remarks.—Our single pair of birds from the heights above Caldas have nothing to do with *brunneinucha*, as shown by actual comparison with specimens of the latter in the collections of the Field and American Museums. The male is more nearly like that of *castaneiceps* proper, but is darker above, the gray ground-color and the olive wash both being of a deeper shade, while the pileum is chestnut in front, darkening rapidly into deep Prout's brown on the crown and nape, giving a much darker general effect. In *castaneiceps* the pileum is deep hazel, almost uniform, and the back is dark mouse gray with little olive brownish wash, except posteriorly. The under parts are not different. The female differs sharply from the same sex of *castaneiceps* and *brunneinucha* in having the breast gray (like the male, but not so deep), contrasting with the rusty throat and malar region. A rusty wash on some of the breast feathers (laterally) might indicate that this example is wrongly sexed, and is really an immature male. It has a hard skull, however, and otherwise looks like an adult female. Its upper parts and pileum are darker than in the female of *castaneiceps*, just as in the other sex. If really an adult female, this pair

of birds must belong to a form which is distinct from *castaneiceps*, but if not, it is difficult to account for the difference between the male of this pair and the male type of *chocoensis*.

Our male bird has been compared with the type of *C. castaneiceps chocoensis* Chapman, with which it has nothing to do. The latter is obviously a Tropical Zone bird, while our specimens are from the Subtropical Zone. The present form differs from *chocoensis* by being dark grayish above, instead of dark brownish; the flanks and crissum are also dark gray, like the abdomen medially, instead of brown, contrasted with the abdomen, as in *chocoensis*. The size, too, is larger (wing, 73; tail, 41; bill, 14.5; tarsus, 29).

While I am for the present calling this new form a subspecies of *castaneiceps*, I suspect that it may really be specifically distinct, and that *chocoensis* may also be in the same category.

Conirostrum cyanonotum, sp. nov.

Type, No. 104,328, Collection Carnegie Museum, adult male; Colonia Tovar, Aragua, Venezuela, April 22, 1929; Ernest G. and Margaret L. Holt.

Description.—Adult male: pileum Hay's blue, with a few silvery white streaks on the forehead; upper parts in general black, strongly overlaid with azurite blue, brightening into smalt blue on the rump and upper tail-coverts; wings black with narrow outer edgings azurite blue, and lesser wing-coverts almost "solid" azurite blue; sides of head and entire under parts blackish violet gray with a deep bluish cast in some lights, especially posteriorly; bill black; feet dark (in skin). Wing, 74, 77; tail, 58, 56; bill, 12, 11.5; tarsus, 17.5.

Adult female: pileum diva blue, becoming grayish posteriorly; upper parts light olive green, brightening into warbler green on the rump and upper tail-coverts; wings and tail blackish with light olive green edgings; sides of head, and throat and breast pale neutral gray; edge of wing warbler green; bill and feet dark (in skin). Wing, 69; tail, 53; bill, 12; tarsus, 17.

Range.—Subtropical Zone, coast range of northern Venezuela.

Remarks.—While at first glance this new species seems most like *C. atrocyaneum* Lafresnaye of Ecuador, Peru, and Bolivia, its real relationships appear to lie rather with the geographically nearer *C. albifrons* Lafresnaye of the Colombian Andes. This is indicated by the close resemblance of the females of these two respective species, and by the white streaks on the forehead of the male in the present form. The single female example, indeed, differs from the same sex of *albifrons* only by its duller green upper parts.

The genus *Conirostrum* is new to the coast range of Venezuela, so that it is not surprising to find that the form representing it there should turn out to be undescribed. Mr. and Mrs. Holt secured three specimens at Colonia Tovar, all taken in or near the forest at 6500 feet altitude. It is of course a Subtropical Zone form.

Agelaius thilius alticola, subsp. nov.

Type, No. 94,494, Collection Carnegie Museum, adult male; Desaguadero, Bolivia, March 6, 1922; José Steinbach.

Subspecific characters.—Adult male similar to the same sex of *Agelaius thilius thilius* (Molina), but larger, and without any pale superciliaries. Adult female also larger and much darker in general coloration. Wing (type), 98; tail, 77; bill, 23; tarsus, 22.

Range.—Highlands of Bolivia and Peru.

Remarks.—Our fine series of thirty-six specimens (all from Guaqui and Desaguadero, Bolivia, on the borders of Lake Titicaca) show that we are dealing with a race quite distinct from either true *thilius* or *chrysapterus*. Males differ in being uniformly larger, and in lacking any trace of the pale superciliaries so noticeable in *thilius*, even in supposedly old birds. Females differ conspicuously from both of the other forms in their much darker coloration; they are also larger. These differences were first remarked by von Berlepsch and Stolzmann (Ornis, XIII, 1905, 103), when dealing with specimens from Peru and Bolivia. The only name we need to consider in this connection is the *Agelaius xanthocarpus* of Bonaparte (Conspectus Avium, I, 1850, 430), said to be from "Peru." Dr. C. E. Hellmayr has examined the types of this supposed form, and reports that it is a pure synonym of *A. thilius*, the locality "Peru" being an error (*cf.* his remarks in Field Museum of Natural History Zoological Series, XIX, 1932, 100).

Three adult males of true *thilius* from Chile (Field Museum Collection) measure as follows: wing, 94–96; tail, 73–75; bill, 22–23; tarsus, 25.5–27. Argentina specimens are somewhat smaller, and the female is less heavily streaked below. Sclater (Catalogue Birds British Museum, XI, 1886, 343–4) admits two races of this species, but calls the one from east of the Andes *chrysocarpa*—wrongly as it appears, since this name was based on the bird of Chile by the original describer (Vigors, Proceedings Zoological Society of London, 1832, 3). The next name, *Icterus chrysopterus* D'Orbigny and Lafresnaye (Synopsis Avium, ii, 1838, 5) is invalidated by *Agelaius chrysopterus* Vieillot (Nouveau Dictionnaire d'Histoire Naturelle, XXXIV, 1819, 539). This brings us to *Agelasticus chrysapterus* Cabanis (Museum Heineanum, I, 1851, 188), based on Azara's bird from Paraguay, as the first name of undoubted pertinence. Although differing by only one letter, it is derived from another word, and therefore admissible.

Buarremon phaeopleurus exortus, subsp. nov.

Type, No. 106,965, Collection Carnegie Museum, adult female; La Elvecia, Sucre, Venezuela, January 12, 1930; Harold J. Clement.

Subspecific characters.—Similar to *Buarremon phaeopleurus phaeopleurus* Sclater of the Caracas region of Venezuela, but upper parts in general dark citrine, more greenish and less brownish; tail also darker, more dusky, less brownish, and sides, flanks, and crissum more grayish, greenish-tinged, but without any buffy wash.

Range.—Subtropical and Upper Tropical Zones of the eastern coast range of Venezuela.

Remarks.—Three specimens from El Limon (2480 feet) and La Elvecia (5850 feet), near Cumanacoa, in the State of Sucre, Venezuela, differ conspicuously from the good series (27 skins) of true *phaeopleurus* in the respects just pointed out, and constitute an easily recognizable subspecies, the range of which is probably cut off from that of *phaeopleurus* proper by the low country to the west.